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| APPLICATION NO.   | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.           | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|---|-------------|----------------------|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 10/663,052  | 09/16/2003  | Evan J. Granite      | S-100,128                     | 1978             |
| 31970   | 7590        | 03/13/2006           |                               |                  |
| UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY<br>1000 INDEPENDENCE AVENUE, S.W.<br>ATTN: GC-62 (CHI), MS 6F-067<br>WASHINGTON, DC 20585-0162 |             |                      | EXAMINER<br>SPITZER, ROBERT H |                  |
|   |             |                      | ART UNIT<br>1724              | PAPER NUMBER     |

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2006

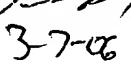
Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|   |                        |                     |  |
|---|------------------------|---------------------|--|
| <b>Response to Rule 312 Communication</b> | <b>Application No.</b> | <b>Applicant(s)</b> |  |
|   | 10/663,052             | GRANITE ET AL.      |  |
|   | <b>Examiner</b>        | <b>Art Unit</b>     |  |
|   | Duane S. Smith         | 1724                |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

1.  The amendment filed on 2-9-06 under 37 CFR 1.312 has been considered, and has been:

- a)  entered.
- b)  entered as directed to matters of form not affecting the scope of the invention.
- c)  disapproved because the amendment was filed after the payment of the issue fee.  
Any amendment filed after the date the issue fee is paid must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.313(c)(1) and the required fee to withdraw the application from issue.
- d)  disapproved. See explanation below.
- e)  entered in part. See explanation below.

Duane S. Smith   
Primary Examiner   
Art Unit: 1724